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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Port Information: Chinwangtao

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)DATE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

DATE (OF INFO.)

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THE OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO CIA FOR IAC DISSEMINATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 3 c OF NSCID #7 (DIO, 8ND No 67-54).

1. The following information is based on personal observations of the source.
2. Alphabetical Designators In connection with information reported herein, specific points of interest are noted on photograph of HO Chart 2512 by the following alphabetical designators:
 - A. Approach Line
 - B. Anchorage
 - C. Source's Berth
 - D. Japanese Merchant Vessel
 - E. Chinese Communist Merchant Vessel
 - F. Pilot Debarking Point
 - G. Foundry
 - H. Chinwangtao Light
 - I. Anchorage Area
3. Mode of Conveyance Source visited port in a merchant freighter of 7338 tons, length 445'8", beam 54'3", draft 26'2".
4. Cargo Visit was made for the purpose of lifting two thousand tons of pig iron ingots, approximate dimensions 6" x 12", which were subsequently discharged at Gdynia, Poland.
5. Chronological Sequence of Events Vessel called port 25-28 Oct 53; the chronology of events being as follows:

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ONI review(s)
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Arrived and anchored	251600H
Pilot boarded	260800H
Underway from anchorage	260830H
Arrived berth	261002H
Pilot boarded	281530H
Underway from berth	281600H
Dropped pilot	281630H

6. Hydrographic Information Chinwangtao Light, located at designator H on the photograph was found to be 3" flashing rather than the indicated 10" flashing.
7. Weather Weather was fair during the call, temperature ranging around 60° F.
8. Formalities Vessel filed an arrival message with Chinwangtao Radio Station XSE 231101 Oct 53 (time zone unknown), prior to entry, informing them of intention to enter, time of arrival, draft, last port of call, etc.
9. Approach Vessel approached port on a course heading of 303° T and proceeded directly to anchorage. Approximate approach position is shown on photograph by designator A.
10. Anchorage The anchorage area lies about one mile offshore in an arc as illustrated by designator I. Anchorage was found to be good with a bottom composition of mud and sand. Vessel anchored at designator B in 30' of water.
11. Pilot Boat - Dredge A 120' harbor dredge was used as a pilot boat. She flew no special flags, showed no signals or was otherwise marked.
12. Pilotage Source was of the opinion that pilotage was not compulsory, though utilized by his vessel.
13. Pilot Pilot boarded at anchorage, spoke Chinese and a poor grade of broken English. Upon departure, pilot boarded at berth and was dropped at point designated F. Service was considered satisfactory.
14. Tugs Vessel used one tug in berthing upon arrival and departure. This was modern steel hull vessel in good condition, of about 400 HP; length 75'; and beam 12'.
15. Boarding Party The boarding party arrived with the pilot at anchorage and was composed of approximately 10 persons, one of which, the quarantine officer, was a female. A not too thorough search of one-half hours' duration was conducted. Upon departure, the same party boarded at dockside and held a similar inspection in regard to scope and duration.
16. Berthing Vessel berthed port-side to at designator C. Depth alongside was found to be 21'. There is berthing space for one ocean type merchant vessel at this location.
17. Quay The quay at designator C is a stone filled structure with a wooden deck.
18. Clearance Facilities A railroad spur, connecting with the Peiping-Mukden railroad, is located on the quay as shown on HO 2512. The track proper is located approximately five yards inboard from the face of the quay, flush with the deck and an estimated gauge of over 6'. (Source insisted this was gauge measurement.)
19. Rolling Stock Cargo was loaded by ship's gear from railroad cars which were gondola type, length 30', beam 10'.
20. Utilities Electric lighting was available on the quay.
21. Fresh Provisions Availability Fresh provisions were purchased, consisting of eggs, poultry, meat and greens. The price was considered cheap and quality good.

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22. Surveillance Guard Surveillance was kept on vessel by means of one armed guard stationed at the gangway at all times.
23. Merchant Shipping Present There were no other merchant vessels awaiting entry at the time of the source's entry or departure. There were only two other vessels in port at the time of the call, a Japanese freighter of about 11 thousand tons and a Chinese Communist freighter of about four thousand tons. These vessels' positions are located by designators D and E, respectively. Both the vessels were being worked and were lifting cargoes of coal in bulk.
24. Naval Vessels Sighted No naval vessels were observed in port or in the general area.
25. Crew's Liberty Crew members were allowed to go ashore on liberty which expired, on board, at midnight of each day.
26. Medical Facilities Several crew members availed themselves of medical facilities ashore for minor ailments, obtaining adequate treatment from a private physician.
27. Foundry A foundry, which is located in the vicinity of designator G, comprises the only industrial life of the city. Source stated that is where his cargo was processed.
28. General Port was described as a breakwater built out of the coastline, having little strategic significance other than for the foundry, main line railroad, iron and coal deposits that are located in and around its limits. The main function of the port is the exportation of these minerals, as well as the production of iron at the foundry. The townspeople were described as being "pretty rustic" types.

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